

Adversity: *The finest steel has to go through the hottest fire.* —Richard M. Nixon, 37th U.S. president

District Leadership

HED Deputy delighted with assignment



Maj. Scott Schriner, HED Deputy Commander

Story and photograph by Alexander Kufel

Military life is different from that of civilians. PCS (permanent change of station) orders can appear and disappear with alarming rapidity and military families can find themselves headed for destinations they hardly considered. Six months before his July arrival in Hawaii for his new job as HED Deputy Commander, Maj. Scott Schriner, his wife Lisa, and their two sons Craig, 8, and Douglas, 5-1/2, were getting ready for a tour of duty at Fort Hood, Texas. Then, everything changed.

"The prospect of living in Hawaii wasn't even on our radar screen last December," said Schriner. Suddenly, in January they found themselves trying to find out about schools in Hawaii instead of Texas. They decided that Moanalua Elementary seemed like a pretty good place to send their children, particularly since it was close to Fort Shafter. For them, said Schriner, the quality of the house they would live in was secondary to the quality of education. That settled, all they had to do was find housing nearby and they would be all set. Nobody told the Schriners that Moanalua Gardens was an area of very low turnover so they weren't even surprised when a rental unit

became available just as they arrived.

Now, a few weeks later, the Major is settling into his job, his family is settling into their new home and one discovers that nearly 14 years of marriage and 14 years in the Army are not a coincidence at all. Instead, they represent the kind of clarity of purpose that goes along with knowing one's self and making life decisions that support that vision.

Schriner said that he likes to be involved in things, but not a lot of things at the same time.

"I work hard at the things I do," he said. "And I expect other people to do their job. I don't see any difference between military and civilians, we all have a job to do."

Schriner completed graduate school while a project engineer and assistant resident engineer at the Scott Air Force Base resident office in Louisville District in 1998. From then until June 2000 he was part of the 2nd Training Support Battalion. Recently, he completed the year long Resident Command and General Staff College course at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

"I'm very mobile," he said. "I can go anywhere, but the hardest thing about coming to Hawaii was having to tear the family away from their friends. Lisa and I talk a lot. To be in the Army you really need a supportive spouse. We are already making new friends and that will get better with time."

Thus, his priorities are, for the moment anyway, focused on his job and his family.

Plans include becoming fully involved in the workings of the District while on the job. Off duty, he's anticipating working with the Cub Scouts, once Craig and Doug start again, and getting involved in youth sports as an assistant coach, something he has already done for three years. Schriner said that he's an avid golfer, is a huge NASCAR racing fan, and is temporarily separated from his baseball card collection. He also is looking forward to finding time to go fishing again with his sons, something they haven't yet been able to do and teaching golf to them as well.

Cover: *Photographed in action during a recent CO2 (Consideration of Others) training session, a team from Programs Management Branch consisting of Linda Tsugawa, Val Lee, Wendy Mow, Anne Chang, Renee Inouye and Dean Fukuchi demonstrates its ability to work together to accomplish a difficult task by quickly building a pyramid out of paper cups without using their hands. Or any other body parts, for that matter, they said. Also present but not pictured are Richard Raber, Geoff Lee, Craig Hashimoto, Randall Wong and Doris Aguilar. —Photograph by Alexander Kufel.*

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